



CALPEEK

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BALLOT MEASURE UPDATE: NEW POLLING DATA.

Editor's note: Here are the latest side-by-side poll results from the L.A. Times and the Field Poll. The LAT's poll are *likely voters*, whereas the Field Poll are registered voters. However, Field notes that the numbers are very close to being the same. LAT polled from Sept. 8-11, while Field was taken from Sept. 13-18. #184 (3 Strikes); #186 (Single Payer Health plan); #187 (SOS); and #188 (Smoking)...

		<u>LAT</u>	<u>Field</u>
#184	Yes	59%	61%
	No	29%	25%
	Und.	12%	14%
#186	Yes	23%	30%
	No	63%	53%
	Und.	14%	17%
#187	Yes	62%	57%
	No	29%	31%
	Und.	9%	12%
#188	Yes	47%	42%
	No	45%	45%
	Und.	8%	13%

● **Prop. 187** - Operation "Gatekeeper" to halt the flow of illegals over the U.S./Mexican Border is now running and appears to be working, but it may have come too late to help opponents defeat Prop. 187, the SOS initiative. Nevertheless, NO on 187 keeps pounding away and they got some help from conservative gubernatorial primary candidate Ron Unz, who says 187 would be the "worst moral disaster for our state since the internment of Japanese Americans. No decent Californian should support it." There is some indication there may be more conservative opposition to 187 than one might imagine. One source said conservatives

(especially elected officials) who oppose 187 are keeping silent because they don't want to upset Gov. Pete Wilson, who has made illegal immigration the cornerstone of his campaign. Conservatives who favor 187 are called "*The Mountjoy Morons*" by another conservative source --- after GOP Assemblyman Dick Mountjoy, who is a co-sponsor of 187. Stay tuned...

LESS THAN A MONTH LEFT: CALPEEK's OVERVIEW.

Editor's note: As of Oct. 10th, there are 29 days left until the Nov. 8th election. Here is CALPEEK's general overview & analysis...

...The national news media, as well as prominent GOP elected leaders (Dole & Gingrich), continue to talk about a *massive tidal wave* running in the Republican Party's direction. The Demo *counter-spin* is that losses will occur, but they won't be as bad as the media pundits and GOP are predicting. But with names such as Kennedy & Cuomo running scared, one has to wonder. The U.S. as a whole has recovered from the recession and there's a saying that "People vote their pocket-books." In this year, that should spell good news to all incumbents, but not in this election cycle...

...So what's the problem? Sources say voters see the country drifting, *without leadership*. Congress shares part of the blame, but most say the fault is with Pres. Bill Clinton. And it may have little to do with his 21 months in office. Some think the *character issue* is the focus of the discontent. It's taken a huge toll on Mr. Clinton's popularity -- *and his ability to lead* -- to the extent that many of his accomplishments have been overshadowed. So when people hear Mr. Clinton's name, it's Whitewater or Paula Jones that clicks -- not deficit reduction, NAFTA, the crime bill or Middle East peace. That may not be fair, but it's reality...

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...So with Mr. Clinton's numbers in the *commode*, can Calif. Republicans take advantage of this situation on Nov. 8th? Republicans are praying for a *low voter turnout*. The lower the turnout, the better. Sources feel GOP fortunes at the Statewide constitutional level will improve over 1990, when only Pete Wilson and Dan Lungren(AG) won. With a month to go and the public still not focused just yet (except on Prop. 187 -- illegal immigration) the Field Poll shows Wilson, Lungren and Matt Fong (Treasurer) leading on the GOP side, while Gray Davis (LG), Tony Miller(SOS), Kathleen Connell(Controller) and Art Torres(IC) are leading on the Demo side. Some of Demos, such as Connell and Miller, have very small leads. It's just a guess, but we suspect the GOP will end up with 4 constitutional offices...

...Is it all doom & gloom for the Demos in Calif.? Not necessarily. Wilson's job performance numbers are still poor and he's not popular. Some think Wilson will end up *under* 50%. Brown's problem has been that she hasn't given voters a reason to vote for her. If she does, despite the short time, the race could tighten or even turn around --- although some sources disagree...

...In terms of mechanics, the registration effort is on target and sources report that the Demos will have the largest ground operation ever Nov. 8th. Bottomline: *the fat lady hasn't sung*. CALPEEK sources say the Demos will still controll the Assembly, with 2-3 losses (CALPEEK thinks that number is low, but we're going with our sources); and it's nail-biting time for Senate Demo Leader Bill Lockyer, but again sources think he'll hold on and losses will be no more than 1-2. In terms of the U.S. Senate and House delegation, Dianne Feinstein(D) is in the race of her life against Michael Huffington, but most (not all) sources think she'll hang on, despite the huge amount of money that Huffington is spending. Is this just wishful thinking? Perhaps, but Huffington (and Arianna) are now under a great deal of news media scrutiny and it's not been positive for Mr. or Mrs. H. In CA House races, sources continue to watch 2-3 Demos who are *very shaky* because of the bad registration numbers (Rick Lehman, Lynn Schenk; & Tony Beilenson). And some other Demos may have tough reelections (Harman, Hamburg & Farr). *Turn-out is the key*. If the Demo ground operation is successful, losses will be cut. As one GOP source noted: the big question for the Demos is whether they can stop

the tidal wave in Fresno --- or does it continue to the Coast? Stay tuned...

THE INLAND EMPIRE: GOP HAS AN ADVANTAGE.

Editor's note: This is the last of our regional reports on House & Legislative races. Next week we'll go back to a more traditional format for covering House and Legislative races. This week we'll focus on the Inland Empire's Riverside County...

- **43rd C.D. (Update)** - In this repeat from 1992, incumbent freshman Ken Calvert(R) is regarded back East as being one of the most vulnerable incumbents in the U.S. Roll Call, the newspaper of Capitol Hill, ranked him #1 on the vulnerability list. But Calvert may have gotten lucky. First, hardline conservative Bob Lynn failed to qualify as an independent candidate, so he won't be on the ballot (but he may be a write-in). And second, despite the fact that Calvert was caught with a hooker (and tried to cover it up), Demo Mark Takano was *outed* by hardline conservative Assemblyman Ray Haynes. Haynes' action has been denounced by the media, but the damage is done. A recent poll by Charlton Research claims Calvert holds a 44% to 28% lead over Takano, with 22% undecided. Takano's campaign says the poll numbers were *cooked*, noting that in the primary another poll for Calvert showed him with a huge lead of 32-points. Calvert just barely won in June over Joe Khoury, so Takano's charge could stick. On the bad news front for Calvert, there will be at least one conservative write-in candidate -- an anti-abortion activist name John Schwab, who ran in 1992 and drained off 2,100 votes. Bottomline: slight edge to Calvert in a GOP district in a GOP year. FYI - Tipper Gore was recently in the 43rd for Takano to raise money...

- **44th C.D.** - Former Palm Springs mayor Sonny Bono(R) vs. former Assemblyman Steve Clute(D) seems like a mismatch, but sources tell CALPEEK that despite the numbers in this very Republican district, Clute has a shot. Bono is not getting very good press in the district and Palm Springs is not the stronghold that Bono had hoped it would be. And while Bono has 99% name ID, he's starting to lose GOP support --- especially ag support. Several big name GOP types, who will vote Republican Nov. 8, plan to ticket split in the 44th to support Clute, who they describe as good on ag issues. GOP primary candidate Dr. Kent DeLong also has endorsed Clute. Both candidates are on TV

and Bono is in the mail. In terms of money, Clute is staying even with Bono in the 44th and in DC, but Bono has *deep pockets* and this is where he has an advantage. Bono's biggest problem, according to sources, is the fact that he's seen as a *clown* --- the wrong image. Bottomline: edge to Sonny (same reasons as Calvert), but don't kiss Clute off. Conservative AIP candidate Donald Cochran could drain off GOP votes...

● **36th S.D.** - This is the district now represented by retiring State Sen. Bob Presley(D), former Sheriff of Riverside Co. The numbers for a Demo here are just terrible --- 38% D vs. 50% R. This is probably why Presley decided to run for the BoE instead of seeking reelection. Hardline conservative Ray Haynes is the favorite over Riverside Co. Sup. Kay Cenicerros(D). She's popular, but so was Sheriff Cois Byrd, who faced Haynes in the primary and had his ass kicked. The news media doesn't like Haynes and most of the endorsements will end up with Cenicerros, but even Demo Senate Leader Bill Lockyer knows it's a very long shot for Kay, who opposes "3 Strikes" and the SOS initiative. Stay tuned...

LOCAL RACES: ORANGE CO. & SAN FRANCISCO.

Editor's note: Here's an update on some very hot county/city races...

● **Orange Co. Bd. of Supes** - Considering that Orange Co. is prime GOP turf, the battle to replace retiring Sup. Harriett Wieder in Orange Co.'s 2nd district should be a runaway for Huntington Beach Mayor Jim Silva. But according to consultant Harvey Englander, who is now managing Huntington Beach Councilwoman Linda Moulton-Patterson's campaign, polling shows almost an even split --- 1/3 for Silva, 1/3 for Moulton-Patterson and 1/3 undecided. M-P is a registered Demo, but is perceived as independent, although that perception may disappear before the campaign is over. There's no doubt that M-P was *shell shocked* after the primary, because insiders thought she'd finish ahead of her two more conservative rivals, Silva and businesswoman Haydee Tillotson (because they'd split the vote). But it was a very close 3-way race with both Silva and M-P at 29% (Silva got 523 more votes) and Tillotson at 27%. M-P regrouped, replaced Jeff Adler-Frank Wilson with Englander and now hopes lightning will strike. 4 of 5 mayors in the

2nd have endorsed M-P and some of Tillotson's supporters are now with M-P. But Tillotson herself has endorsed Silva. Wieder is neutral, money is tight for both, but if Nov. 8th turns into a big GOP *tidal wave* in Orange Co., Silva has the advantage...

● **Measure "O"** - In San Francisco, one of the most controversial measures to ever face voters appears in the form of Measure O, which could eventually lead to a \$1 per sq. foot annual tax on commercial real estate, with the taxes going to support "Muni," the city's bus and streetcar system. Hotel and retail business are exempt, but not in all cases. For example, if you own a ground floor travel agency, you're exempt. But if your agency is on the 2nd floor, you're going to get hit. Why does Muni need the money? NO on "O" sources say Muni is one of the most mismanaged public transportation systems in the U.S. and if it were run better, "O" wouldn't even be on the ballot. Although the wording says Measure O only calls for a "study" to see if this tax should be approved by supervisors, for all practical purposes "O" amounts to nothing more than the *largest tax hike in 25 years*. How much will this tax raise? About \$54 million. Who pays? Office building owners will simply pass the tax along and opponents think this might turn some sections of the city into a *ghost town*. Measure O's chief supporters are County Sup. Susan Bierman, attorney Sue Hestor and activist Calvin Welsh. Organized labor also is a big supporter. S.F. Mayor Frank Jordan and a united business community are dead set against "O" and have hired Solem & Associates to run the NO campaign...

UCLA HOSTS PUBLIC FORUM ON BALLOT PROPS.

The *pros & cons* of Props. 184, 186, 187 and 188 will be discussed from 7-9 p.m., Oct. 13 at UCLA's James West Alumni Center. Advanced reservations required (310)206-0646, but the evening is free...

RIORDAN'S CHIEF OF STAFF AT WIPA ON OCT. 17.

Dr. William Ouchi, who is L.A. Mayor Riordan's chief of staff, will be the guest speaker for Women In Public Affairs(WIPA), 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon lunch, Oct. 17, Hotel Inter-Continental of L.A. For info and RSVPs, call Leila Campos at (213)276-7206...

STATEWIDE POLLS: THE DOWN BALLOT RACES.

Editor's note: Here's the latest on **down-ballot races**. The Field Poll was taken Sept. 13-18 among 855 registered voters (511 likely voters)...

Lt. Governor

Davis(D)	50%
Wright(R)	25%

Secretary of State

Miller(D)	25%
Jones(R)	20%

Controller

Connell(D)	29%
McClintock(R)	26%

Treasurer

Fong(R)	32%
Angelides(D)	21%

Attorney General

Lungren(R-Inc.)	44%
Umberg(D)	21%

Insurance Commissioner

Torres(D)	35%
Quackenbush(R)	25%

CALPEEK'S ETCETERA: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **Hafif Strikes Again** - Deep-pockets Demo attorney Herb Hafif has mounted a 1-man campaign to elect Tom Umberg as AG and Delaine Eastin as Supt. of Public Instruction, using his own money to buy TV spots (produced by Hafif himself). There are two :30 second spots --- 1) features Kathleen Brown and Umberg; 2) features Brown, Umberg & Eastin. The spots have been running on Sacto TV & cable outlets, but will soon appear in other parts of Calif. Those who have seen the ads say they're not very slick (compared to Wilson/Huffington). Eastin & Umberg aren't complaining --- but GOP AG Dan Lungren is...

- **Wilson's Worst Nightmare** - Gov. Pete Wilson's worst nightmare is having a rival in Calif. who might have national ambitions. That could only be one person. If you said Michael Huffington you win the prize. Although Wilson would never say anything publicly,

sources bet when he gets into that voting booth he'll cast his ballot for Demo U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who isn't a threat. Huffington is!!!

- **Life of Reilly Part II** - L.A. Times political reporter Amy Wallace's Oct. 3rd LAT Magazine story about Demo consultant Clint Reilly (The Tortured Soul of a Hired Gun) should have been titled, "Money, Temper & Testosterone Shots." It's wasn't the kind of article Clint would reprint and send to potential clients...

- **Huffington Watch** - More bad press for GOP U.S. senate candidate Michael Huffington is either out or on the way: stories in The New Yorker and Vanity Fair are both described as being every negative for Mr. & Mrs. H. And now there's the *Doonesbury* comic strip, in which Gary Trudeau goes after Mrs. H and her cult connections to MSIA guru John-Roger. In *Doonesbury*, Mrs. H is called "Arianna-John Huffington." It's a riot. Is all this negative stuff having an impact on Mrs. H, who has been campaigning for her hubby? As seen on KCAL-TV the other night, the answer is she's getting a little bit testy. And as more news media outlets begin to focus on Mrs. H and her cult connections, the tougher it will be to sell Mr. H. Is Mrs. H fair game for stories? San Jose Mercury News political editor Phil Trounstone says YES, because she helps make key campaign decisions. FYI: Not seen by the public but only by political reporters is a new FAX sheet put out by Peter McWilliams, author of Life 102. McW calls his sheet, "Gurugate Gazette," and it's not something that Mr. or Mrs. H will find amusing. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Craig Wilson has been hired by Pacific/West Communications as vp of in the firm's pa division and will handle daily management of the firm's Grass Roots Insight & Persuasion (GRIP) program...

- Attorney Phil Recht has left the Manatt law firm to take a job with the Clinton Admin. as general counsel to the Nat'l Highway Traffic & Safety Admin. (Dept. of Transportation)...

- The Concord Coalition, founded by ex-U.S. Sens. Paul Tsongas and William Rudman, has hired The Kamber Group of Washington DC...